

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LAGOS 00860 201613Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 SSO-00 SS-15 SP-02
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /059 W
-----082105 201617Z /43

O 201545Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6054
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 0860

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, EINV, EFIN, NI, US
SUBJECT: AIG/AIIC AND GARBA

REF: (A) STATE 012242, (B) LAGOS 0548

1. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, WE TRIED OUR BEST OBTAIN APPOINTMENT FOR AMBASSADOR WITH GARBA IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT FMG RECOGNIZE THE POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS DAMAGE TO BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN EVENT OF USG EXPROPRIATION DETERMINATION. GARBA'S STAFF PUT A BRIEF ON THE MATTER BEFORE GARBA ON JANUARY 6 BUT HE HAS BEEN IN PERPETUAL MOTION AND/OR OUT OF TOWN FOR PAST TWO WEEKS AND THEREFORE UNABLE TO RECEIVE US.

2. EMBASSY AGREES WITH REFTEL'S SUGGESTION THAT MEETING FOR AIG PRESIDENT GREENBERG BE ARRANGED WITH GARBA IN NEW YORK. WE HAVE CONFLICTING REPORTS ON GARBA'S PRECISE TRAVEL PLANS, BUT IT SEEMS REASONABLY CLEAR THAT MOST PROBABLE DATES FOR HIS PREFERENCE IN NEW YORK ARE JANUARY 26-31. GARBA'S DEPARTURE FROM LAGOS IS VARIABLY REPORTED AS JANUARY 21 OR JANUARY 23. HE MEETS WITH NIGERIAN AMBASSADORS TO THE AMERICAS AND CANADA IN JAMAICA JANUARY 24.

3. BEST STRATEGY TO GET GREENBERG TO GARBA WOULD APPEAR TO BE TO UTILIZE AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S INTERCESSION WITH GARBA. WE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 00860 201613Z

WOULD PROPOSE THAT YOUNG EXPLAIN TO GARBA THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN EXPROPRIATION FINDING. HE WOULD REITERATE AIG, STATE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THE RESULTS OF ABOUZEID/NOTTINGHAM MEETING WITH FMG OFFICIALS JANUARY 5. HE WOULD REMIND GARBA THAT THE LAGOS MEETING WAS AT GARBA'S INSTRUCTION FOLLOWING AMBASSADOR EASUM'S DEMARCHE IN EARLY DECEMBER. THAT DEMARCHE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF A

MEETING FOR AIG EXECUTIVES AT THE LEVEL OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF TRADE AND FINANCE. GARBA INSTRUCTED AFOLABI TO MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS, BUT NOT ONLY DID NO COMMISSIONER ATTEND BUT NEITHER WAS EITHER OF THE TWO PERMSECS PRESENT IN THE DISCUSSIONS. THEN THE NIGERIAN SIDE SIMPLY REITERATED ALREADY EXPRESSED FMG POSITION. YOUNG WOULD REMIND GARBA THAT WHAT AIG CONTINUES TO SEEK IS A POLITICAL-LEVEL DECISION INJECTING FLEXIBILITY INTO THE POSITIONS NOW FROZEN AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL. YOUNG WOULD TELL GARBA THAT GREENBERG COULD BE EXPECTED TO OFFER A SERIES OF ALTERNATIVE COMPROMISE PACKAGES IF - BUT ONLY IF - AIG HAD EVIDENCE THAT THE NECESSARY SPIRIT OF FLEXIBILITY WAS ASSURED. YOUNG WOULD TELL GARBA THAT UNLESS HE,? &-4?-, COULD CONVINCE GREENBERG ON THIS POINT, THE COMPANY COULD BE EXPECTED NOT ONLY FORMALLY TO REQUEST AN EXPROPRIATION FINDING BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT BUT ALSO T COMMUNICATE ITS VERSION OF THE DISPUTE TO CONGRESS AND THE PESS.

4. WE RECOGNIZE THAT MALTA DISCUSSIONS BY YOUNG WITH PF LEADERS MAY REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DAYS ON WHICH BOTH YOUNG AND GARBA WILL BE IN NEW YORK TOGETHER. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GARBA WOULD REMAIN INTO THE FIRST DAYS OF FEBRUARY BUT WE ARE UNABLE TO GET ANY LEADS ON THIS FROM HERE AT PRESENT.
EASUM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978LAGOS00860
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780031-0125
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780141/aaaabiep.tel
Line Count: 85
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7422c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 12242, 78 LAGOS 548
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3741954
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AIG/AIIC AND GARBA
TAGS: CASC, EINV, EFIN, NI, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7422c7e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014